

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 05390 01 OF 02 221211Z
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05 SOE-02 DODE-00
SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 /096 W
-----082746 221216Z /23

P 221136Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9380
USDOE WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO USDOE GERMANTOWN MD
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 MOSCOW 05390

USDOE FOR BILLY HILL

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TGEN, ENRG, US, UR
SUBJECT: US-USSR ATOMIC ENERGY AGREEMENT: FIFTH JOINT
COMMITTEE MEETING (07.00), SOVIETS STICK TO REQUESTS

REF: (A) STATE 69322, (B) MOSCOW 4619

1. SUMMARY - DURING RATHER FRIGID SESSION MARCH 21 WITH SCICOUNS, SCAE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN MOROZOV STATED SOVIETS CANNOT HOLD TO JCM MEETING 3-4 APRIL AND REQUESTED AGAIN THAT IT BE POSTPONED UNTIL AFTERNOON OF APRIL 4. MOROZOV STATED THAT THE SOVIETS FIND IT "INCOMPREHENSIBLE" THAT DOE CANNOT AGREE TO CHANGE IN TIMING AND ALSO BERATED DOE FOR NOT HAVING FULLY AGREED TO A POST-JCM ITINERARY AT THIS POINT. MOROZOV SUGGESTS POSTPONING JCM UNTIL APRIL 9 IF JCM CANNOT BE HELD AFTERNOON APRIL 4. END SUMMARY.

2. SCICOUNS MET 20 MARCH AT SCAE WITH PUSTYNTSEV AND VASIL'YEV TO PROVIDE CONTENTS REF A, AND WAS ASKED TO
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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 05390 01 OF 02 221211Z

RETURN TO SCAE ON 21 MARCH TO HEAR RESPONSE FROM SCAE
DEPUTY CHAIRMAN MOROZOV.

3. DURING MEETING MARCH 21 WITH SCICOUNS MOROZOV STARTED WITH LONG AND FREQUENTLY INACCURATE REVIEW OF NEGOTIATIONS ON SETTING OF DATE FOR FIFTH JCM. JIST OF MOROZOV ARGUMENT WAS THAT SOVIETS HAD SHOWN EXTREME FLEXIBILITY

WITH REGARD TO SETTING OF JCM DATES AND CANNOT UNDERSTAND WHY US SIDE CANNOT POSTPONE JCM FOR ONE AND A HALF DAYS NOW. ALSO UNCOMPREHENSIBLE, ACCORDING TO MOROZOV, WAS FACT THAT POST JCM ITINERARY HAS NOT YET BEEN AGREED AND SOVIETS DO NOT KNOW WHAT OPEN TICKETS ARE NEEDED AT THIS LATE DATE. SCICOUNS, DRAWING ON EXTREMELY HELPFUL BACKGROUND REF A, REBUTTED AS FOLLOWS:

(A) SOVIETS THEMSELVES HAD SUGGESTED APRIL 3-4 AS JCM DATES.

(B) LACK OF FULLY AGREED POST JCM TOUR WAS OCCASIONED BY SOVIETS NOT PROVIDING A FINAL LIST OF PERSONS AND PLACES THEY WISHED TO VISIT UNTIL MARCH 13.

(C) THERE ARE ALTERNATIVES TO AEROFLOT APRIL 2 IF SOVIETS WISH TO DISPENSE HARD CURRENCY.

4. MOROZOV REACTED STRONGLY TO SCICOUNS SUGGESTION THAT SCAE IS RESPONSIBLE THAT POST JCM ITINERARY IS NOT YET DETERMINED. HE STATED THAT TRIP TO BATAVIA WAS TO ALLOW MARKOV AND OTHER JCM MEMBERS TO VISIT SOVIET SCIENTISTS ENGAGED IN JOINT EXPERIMENT THERE AND THAT SCAE WOULD GLADLY PAY ALL COSTS FOR THAT PORTION OF THE VISIT, WHICH IS NOT NECESSARILY CONNECTED WITH THE JCM ITSELF. WHEN QUESTIONED BY SCICOUNS ABOUT RECENT ADDITION OF ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY AS WELL, MOROZOV LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 MOSCOW 05390 01 OF 02 221211Z

SAID THAT ARGONNE IS SO CLOSE TO BATAVIA THAT SOVIET DELEGATION MEMBERS BELIEVE THAT THEY SHOULD BE ABLE TO GO THERE AND OFFERED THAT SOVIET SIDE WOULD PICK UP EXPENSES FOR THIS VISIT. SCICOUNS RESPONDED THAT CRITICAL POINT IS NOT WHO PAYS BUT QUESTION OF VISA AND LABORATORY ACCESS CLEARANCES, NOTING THAT THE U.S. REQUIRES SUCH CLEARANCES JUST AS DOES THE SOVIET UNION.

5. MOROZOV ALSO BRISTLED AT SCICOUNS' MENTION OF POSSIBLE USE OF OTHER FLAG CARRIERS, STATING THAT SCAE HAS BEEN FORCED TO SPEND "LARGE AMOUNTS" ON CANCELLATION OF AIR CHARGES IN THE SOVIET UNION FOR U.S. DELEGATIONS THAT HAVE NOT ARRIVED AS AGREED. (THIS IS THE FIRST TIME WE HAVE HEARD THIS COMPLAINT FROM SCAE.)

6. MOROZOV REPEATED THAT THE SOVIETS WISH TO START THE JCM AFTERNOON APRIL 4 AND ADDED THAT SCAE CHAIRMAN PETROSYANTS HAS ALREADY TELEXED DOE DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY THORNE THAT IF ALL JCM ACTIVITIES COULD NOT BE COMPLETED BY APRIL 5 THE SOVIETS PROPOSE TO FINISH JCM IN WASHINGTON FOLLOWING POST JCM TOUR. SCICOUNS STATED HE WOULD RELATE THE SOVIET REQUEST ONCE AGAIN TO DOE BUT

NOTED THAT THE EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED TWO MESSAGES IN THE
LAST WEEK FROM DOE INDICATING THE POSTPONEMENT TO APRIL 4
IS NOT ACCEPTABLE DUE TO CONFLICTING SCHEDULE OF U.S.
JCM MEMBERS.

7. DURING MARCH 20 MEETING AT SCAE PUSTYNTSEV
STATED THAT SOVIET COMMENTS ON THE DOE DRAFT MEMORANDUM
WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE END OF THE WEEK. VASIL'YEV
STATED THAT THE SOVIETS WILL PROPOSE ONLY MINOR EDITORIAL
CHANGES AND SOME UPDATING. PUSTYNTSEV ALSO STATED THE
SOVIETS WILL BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS COOPERATION IN SPENT

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 05390 02 OF 02 221213Z
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 02 MOSCOW 05390

FUEL HANDLING AND STORAGE AS SOLE "NEW SUBJECT" FOR
CONSIDERATION BY THE JCM. PUSTYNTSEV ALSO NOTED THAT
THERE WOULD BE "NO OBJECTION IN PRINCIPLE" TO A U.S.
REQUEST TO DIVIDE ITS DELEGATION TO THE SIXTH JCM IN THE
SOVIET UNION AFTER IT WAS NOTED BY SCICOUNS THAT DOE HAS
AGREED TO DIVISION OF POST JCM ITINERARY FOR THE SOVIETS
AFTER THE FIFTH JCM. TOON

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